

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The currently pending claims are as follows:

19. (Previously presented) A luminance control method for a liquid crystal display device, which comprises a liquid crystal panel, a backlight disposed at the back of the liquid crystal panel and a luminance detecting unit for detecting a luminance of the backlight, for controlling an input level of a video signal to be inputted into the liquid crystal panel to control transmittance of the liquid crystal panel and provide a gray-level display, comprising the steps of:

measuring a luminance of light emitted from the backlight through the liquid crystal panel in a plurality of states where the liquid crystal panel has a predetermined transmittance and the backlight has a different luminance, and preliminarily storing the luminance measured in each state associated with the luminance detected by the luminance detecting unit;

setting a desired luminance set value of light emitted through the liquid crystal panel in a state where the liquid crystal panel has a predetermined transmittance;

calculating a luminance to be detected by the luminance detecting unit, which is to be the set luminance set value, on the basis of stored luminance in each state; and

controlling the luminance of the backlight so as to be the calculated luminance.

20. (Previously presented) The luminance control method according to claim 19, wherein the luminance set value is a luminance in a state where the transmittance of the liquid crystal panel is a controllable maximum transmittance.

21. (Previously presented) The luminance control method according to claim 19, wherein one state of the plurality of states is a state where the backlight has a controllable maximum luminance and another state of the plurality of states is a state where the backlight has a controllable minimum luminance.

22. (Previously presented) The luminance control method according to claim 20, wherein one state of the plurality of states is a state where the backlight has a controllable maximum luminance and another state of the plurality of states is a state where the backlight has a controllable minimum luminance.

23. (Previously presented) The luminance control method according to claim 19, further comprising the steps of:

measuring a luminance of light emitted through the liquid crystal panel in each input level, and preliminarily storing the measured luminance associated with an input level which gives the luminance;

calculating a luminance of light emitted through the liquid crystal panel in each input level and a luminance to be set in each gray level in a case of the luminance set value, on the basis of the stored luminance and input level;

extracting an input level, which gives a luminance substantially equal to the luminance to be set in each gray level, on the basis of the luminance in each calculated input level and the luminance to be set in each gray level, and storing the extracted input level associated with a gray level; and

controlling the transmittance of the liquid crystal panel in a gray level associated with the input level of the video signal.

24. (Previously presented) The luminance control method according to claim 23, wherein the luminance set value is a luminance in a state where the transmittance of the liquid crystal panel is a controllable maximum transmittance.

25. (Previously presented) The luminance control method according to claim 23, wherein one state of the plurality of states is a state where the backlight has a controllable maximum luminance and another state of the plurality of states is a state where the backlight has a controllable minimum luminance.

26. (Previously presented) The luminance control method according to claim 24, wherein one state of the plurality of states is a state where the backlight has a controllable maximum luminance and another state of the plurality of states is a state where the backlight has a controllable minimum luminance.

27. (Previously presented) The luminance control method according to claim 19, further comprising the steps of:

measuring a luminance of light emitted through the liquid crystal panel in each input level;

normalizing each measured luminance, and preliminarily storing each normalized luminance associated with an input level which gives the luminance;

calculating a luminance of light emitted through the liquid crystal panel in each input level and a luminance to be set in each gray level in a case of the luminance set value, on the basis of the stored luminance and input level;

extracting an input level, which gives a luminance substantially equal to a luminance to be set in each gray level, on the basis of the luminance in each calculated input level and the luminance to be set in each gray level, and storing the extracted input level associated with a gray level; and

controlling the transmittance of the liquid crystal panel in a gray level associated with the input level of the video signal.

28. (Previously presented) The luminance control method according to claim 27, wherein the luminance set value is a luminance in a state where the transmittance of the liquid crystal panel is a controllable maximum transmittance.

29. (Previously presented) The luminance control method according to claim 27, wherein one state of the plurality of states is a state where the backlight has a controllable maximum luminance and another state of the plurality of states is a state where the backlight has a controllable minimum luminance.

30. (Previously presented) The luminance control method according to claim 28, wherein one state of the plurality of states is a state where the backlight has a controllable maximum luminance and another state of the plurality of states is a state where the backlight has a controllable minimum luminance.

31. (Previously presented) A liquid crystal display device, which comprises a liquid crystal panel and a backlight disposed at the back of the liquid crystal panel, for controlling an input level of a video signal to be inputted to the liquid crystal panel to control transmittance of the liquid crystal panel and provide a gray-level display, comprising:

a luminance detecting unit for detecting a luminance of the backlight;

a first storage unit for preliminarily storing first information in which the luminance detected by the luminance detecting unit, in a plurality of states where the liquid crystal panel has a predetermined transmittance and the backlight has a different luminance is associated with a luminance of light emitted from the backlight through the liquid crystal panel;

an accepting unit for accepting a desired luminance set value of light emitted through the liquid crystal panel in a state where the liquid crystal panel has a predetermined transmittance;

a first calculating unit for calculating a luminance to be detected by the luminance detecting unit, which is to be the luminance set value accepted by the accepting unit, on the basis of the first information stored in the first storage unit; and

a luminance control unit for controlling the luminance of the backlight so as to be the luminance calculated by the first calculating unit.

32. (Previously presented) The liquid crystal display device according to claim 31, wherein the luminance detecting unit has: a photoelectric converter for converting the luminance of the backlight into an analog-type electric signal having a voltage corresponding to the luminance of the backlight; and an analog-digital converter for converting the converted analog-type electric signal into a digital-type electric signal.

33. (Previously presented) The liquid crystal display device according to claim 31, wherein

the first storage unit further stores second information on a luminance of light emitted through the liquid crystal panel in each input level, and

the liquid crystal device further comprises:

a second calculating unit for calculating a luminance of light emitted through the liquid crystal panel in each input level in a case of the luminance set value accepted by the accepting unit, on the basis of the second information;

a third calculating unit for calculating a luminance to be set in each gray level in a case of the luminance set value accepted by the accepting unit;

a fourth calculating unit for calculating a luminance difference between the luminance to be set in each gray level calculated by the third calculating unit and the luminance in each input level calculated by the second calculating unit;

a second storage unit for storing an input level, which gives a minimum luminance difference calculated by the fourth calculating unit, associated with a gray level; and

a control unit for controlling the transmittance of the liquid crystal panel in a gray level associated with the input level of the video signal.

34. (Previously presented) The liquid crystal display device according to claim 33, wherein the luminance detecting unit has: a photoelectric converter for converting the luminance of the backlight into an analog-type electric signal having a voltage corresponding to the luminance of the backlight; and an analog-digital converter for converting the converted analog-type electric signal into a digital-type electric signal.

35. (Previously presented) A recording medium on which a computer program for causing a computer to output control information to a liquid crystal display device comprising a liquid crystal panel and a backlight disposed at the back of the liquid crystal panel and causing the computer to control an input level of a video signal to be inputted into the liquid crystal panel to control transmittance of the liquid crystal panel and provide a gray-level display is recorded, said computer program comprising the steps of:

causing the computer to store in a storage unit a luminance of the backlight, in a plurality of states where the backlight has a different luminance, associated with a luminance of light emitted from the backlight through the liquid crystal panel;

causing the computer to set a desired luminance set value of light emitted through the liquid crystal panel;

causing the computer to calculate control information for controlling a luminance of the backlight, which is to be the set luminance set value, on the basis of first information stored in the storage unit; and

causing the computer to output the calculated control information to the liquid crystal display device.

36. (Previously presented) The recording medium according to claim 35, wherein said computer program further comprises the steps of:

causing the computer to store in a storage unit second information on a luminance of light emitted through the liquid crystal panel in each input level;

causing the computer to calculate a luminance of light emitted through the liquid crystal panel in each input level in a case of the inputted luminance set value, on the basis of the stored second information;

causing the computer to calculate a luminance to be set in each gray level in a case of the inputted luminance set value;

causing the computer to calculate a luminance difference between the calculated luminance to be set in each gray level and the calculated luminance in each input level; and

causing the computer to store in the storage unit an input level, which gives a minimum calculated luminance difference, associated with a gray level.